

Remarks/Arguments

Reconsideration of this application is requested. This amendment is in response to a final Office Action, is intended solely to put this application in form for allowance, and does not raise any issues requiring further search or consideration.

Extension of Time

A final Office Action was mailed in this application on June 3, 2004. A petition for a two month extension of the period within which to respond to the June 3 action is enclosed. The extended period for response expires on November 3, 2004.

Claim Status

Claims 1-11 and 22-24 were previously pending in this application. By this amendment, claims 1 and 23 are amended, and claims 22 and 24 are canceled. Accordingly after entry of this amendment, claims 1-11 and 23 are pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 24 was indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 24 depended from intervening claim 22, which depended from claim 1. Claim 1 has been rewritten to include all limitations of dependent claims 22 and 24. Claims 22 and 24, accordingly, have been canceled. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 1 is now in allowable form.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-11, 22 and 23 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Kita (JP 2001-295833) in view of applicant's admitted prior art of Figure 7. Claim 1 is amended into allowable form, as indicated above. Claims 2-10 depend from claim 1,

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Attorney Docket No. 81868.0045
Customer No.: 26021

and are similarly allowable. Claim 22 is canceled, in view of the amendments to claim 1. Claim 23 is amended to depend from claim 1. For these reasons, it is submitted that claims 1-11 and 23 are now in allowable form.

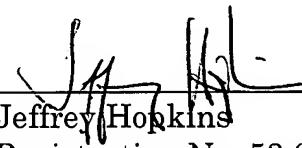
Conclusion

This application is now believed to be in allowable form. The Examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned to resolve any issues that remain after entry of this amendment. Any fees due in connection with this response, including the fees due for a two month extension of time, may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,

HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: November 2, 2004

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